



Incorporated 1787

Parks & Recreation Commission

**REGULAR MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
MONDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2009
7:30 P.M.**

**WESTON TOWN HALL
DAUGHERTY COMMISSION ROOM**

David C. Juneau
Chairman

Committees:
Administrative,
Fields

Carlos Mello
Vice Chairman
Committee:
Aquatics

Eric Albert
Commissioner
Committee:
TBD

Nancy Babyak
Commissioner
Committee:
Programs

Carl Bernstein
Commissioner
Committees:
Fields, Parks

Marc Butlein
Commissioner
Committee:
Programs

Robert A. Uzenoff
Commissioner
Committee:
Administrative

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30

Official action of the commission in these minutes is indicated by underlining.

The Weston Parks and Recreation Commission (WPRC) held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, November, 2009 at Weston Town Hall. Commissioners present: Eric Albert, Nancy Babyak, Carl Bernstein, David Juneau. Marc Butlein joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m. and Carlos Mello joined the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Commissioners absent: none. Staff present: Weston Parks and Recreation (P&R) Aquatics Director Lynn Stevens and Programs Director Bill Shaeffer. Public present: Eric Tyson, Andrew Lahn, and Tom Sherman.

Call to order: Mr. Juneau called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

1) Approval of minutes. Minutes of the October 5, 2009 meeting were approved with no corrections. For: Albert, Babyak, Bernstein, Butlein, Juneau, Mello and Uzenoff. Against: None. Abstain: None

2) Public Forum (occurred prior to item 1 above):

a) Lynn Stevens on Aquatics: Swim programs are going well with some youth programs at capacity with short wait-lists. The pool is functioning well with water temperature, deck temperature and shower hot water all working well.

i) Since Ms. Stevens allows non-Weston residents to enroll in aquatics programs, she follows this procedure:

- 31 (1) Current program participants have option to 'roll into' the
32 next session (September session starts fresh with no
33 rollovers from previous session, however).
- 34 (2) Registration for Weston residents is then held for new
35 program participants
- 36 (3) Finally, registration is opened to non-Weston residents
- 37 ii) One new rule to which pool staff are adapting is the Middle
38 School security policy requiring parents to be 'buzzed in' by
39 intercom until 2:30 p.m. Mr. Uzenoff pointed out that parents
40 could also enter the building via the front doors and sign in like
41 other visitors.
- 42 iii) Ms. Stevens also touched on the successful after-school ski
43 program she runs, a summer triathlon camp which is run
44 through P&R, and a fishing program which is taught by State of
45 Connecticut officials.
- 46 b) Bill Shaeffer on Programs: Mr. Shaeffer walked the WPRC through
47 many of the programs in the WPRC programs spreadsheet. Of note:
- 48 i) Womens softball has a 6 team league
- 49 ii) Mens softball is pick-up games only
- 50 iii) Some game gallery programs are now being run by Youth
51 Services, causing P&R programs to show lower participation
52 numbers.
- 53 iv) Coach Matt Medve is running a pole-vault program that seems
54 to be translating into great pole vault performances for the high
55 school track team.
- 56 v) Wrestling program has died out without the leadership of a
57 motivated parent.
- 58 vi) Basketball program is very active for both boys and girls grades
59 1-8. Girls 7-8th grade is a little thin.
- 60 vii) No field hockey camp this past summer.
- 61 c) Eric Tyson and Andrew Lahn, regarding new Rec-plus boys 6th
62 grade basketball team: Mssrs. Tyson and Lahn talked about the
63 need they saw for a rec-plus team fro 6th grade boys and the ability
64 to get gym time. Mr. Uzenoff recommended this be handled
65 administratively with Bill Shaeffer. The rest of the WPRC agreed.
66 Other commissioners agreed. Mt. Tyson also brought up a concern
67 he had regarding travel basketball holding try-outs while other
68 sports (like soccer) were still in session. The WPRC recommended
69 Mr. Tyson pursue this area of concern with Michael Carter of the
70 Weston Sports Council.

- 71 3) Unfinished Business
- 72 a) Action item follow-up.
- 73 i) 2009-19 Mr. Mello met with Sue Phister of the Westport Senior
74 Center (WSC) and learned they do not know the number of
75 unique Weston residents who utilize the WSC. Mr. Mello
76 shared some other information from his meeting:
- 77 (1) The WSC has about 100,000 visits per year now.
- 78 (2) The average Westport participant is 77 years old.
- 79 (3) The WSC is open M-F 8:30 – 4:30 and Saturday 10:00-
80 2:00. (compare to Weston Senior Center in East House open
81 M,T and Th 10:00-2:00).
- 82 (4) Funding for WSC:
- 83 (a) \$4.5mm appropriation in 2003, a portion of which came
84 from the State of Connecticut.
- 85 (b) \$455,000 per year from Town of Westport
- 86 (c) Friends of the Senior Center (private fundraising)
- 87 This item is considered closed. See Action Items 2009-21
88 and 2009-22 for further research into adult fitness for
89 Weston Residents.
- 90 ii) 2009-20 Mr. Bernstein has not contacted Cory Attra regarding
91 the BSP playground Gazebo, but this action item is being
92 deleted because the Weston Park Project has decided not to
93 pursue constructing a gazebo. This item is now closed.
- 94 b) Soccer Club Jamboree update: The original and rain date in were
95 both rained out. No jamboree was held.
- 96 c) Other unfinished business
- 97 4) Reports of standing committees and resulting motions:
- 98 a) Administrative Committee (Mr. Juneau). Correspondence by phone
99 and email from Eric Tyson, plus materials forwarded by Mr. Tyson
100 for this meeting.
- 101 b) Aquatics Committee (Mr. Mello). See Public Forum above for
102 report of Director Lynn Stevens.
- 103 c) Fields Committee (Mssrs. Bernstein and Juneau)
- 104 i) Mr. Juneau reported having heard from Little League (LL) field
105 maintenance person Joe Cina about LL's desire to have P&R
106 refurbish clay areas of each ball field, perhaps on a rotating
107 basis, with financial assistance from LL.

- 108 ii) Mr. Uzenoff reported Weston Schools are considering
109 maintaining campus fields themselves and asked if a copy of
110 Dr. William Dest's recent ball field assessment had been
111 forwarded to the Board of Education. Mr. Uzenoff will follow
112 up with David Ungar to see if this has been done.
- 113 d) Programs Committee (Ms. Babyak and Mr. Butlein)
- 114 i) See Public Forum above for Mr. Shaeffer's report to the WPRC.
- 115 ii) Mr. Uzenoff would like to see information on unique number of
116 families and individuals served in P&R programs, not just
117 overall enrollment numbers.
- 118 iii) Mr. Butlein and Mr. Uzenoff recommended P&R conduct a
119 survey for town satisfaction levels with P&R programs and
120 track P&R's performance in satisfying residents on a yearly
121 basis. The WPRC agreed to make this an agenda item for the
122 December 2009 meeting. Mr. Uzenoff also directed the WPRC
123 to the National Parks and Recreation website for more ideas on
124 surveys. <http://www.nrpa.org>.
- 125 iv) Mr. Bernstein expressed frustration with the Board of Education
126 not having a point person on recreation issues to whom he could
127 direct questions. Mr. Uzenoff recommended directing questions
128 to David Ungar, and then, if Mr. Ungar was unable to answer
129 the question, allowing Mr. Ungar to find the answer from
130 school administration personnel.
- 131 v) Ms. Babyak asked about a Parks and Recreation brochure and if
132 it could be posted to the P&R website. More on this when the
133 WPRC discusses resident satisfaction with P&R programs in
134 December.
- 135 e) Parks Committee (Mr. Bernstein)
- 136 i) Weston Parks Project ("WPP") Playground: Mr. Juneau
137 reported Samantha Parker of WPP has decided to pursue a chess
138 table and chairs rather than pursuing a gazebo. Mr. Ungar is
139 handling this with Ms. Parker.
- 140 ii) Morehouse Farm Park (MFP) History Sign: responding to a
141 question from Mr. Uzenoff, Mr. Juneau reported that the sign
142 installer had stopped by Mr. Ungar's office to pick up the sign
143 in order to install it at the location Mr. Ungar had staked out at
144 MFP.
- 145 5) New Business
- 146 a) Bill Shaeffer Programs Report – see Public Forum Above
- 147 b) Lynn Stevens Aquatics Report – see Public Forum Above

- 148 c) Eric Tyson / Andrew Lahn Rec Plus Basketball idea – see Public
149 Forum above.
- 150 d) Joe Cina, Bisceglie Scribner Park (BSP) ball diamond
151 refurbishment. Mr. Juneau reported Mr. Cina had inquired about
152 refurbishing clay areas of ball diamonds at BSP. Mr. Juneau will
153 direct Mr. Cina to Mr. Ungar to assess this need.
- 154 6) Correspondence - None
- 155 7) Announcements, remarks for the good of the order.
- 156 a) Mr. Uzenoff announced a Kiwanis/ADAP pasta dinner on 11/13/9
157 and the Weston High School play on 11/13 – 11/15 in the HS
158 auditorium.
- 159 b) Mr. Bernstein revealed a copy of a new magazine: Connecticut
160 Student Athlete – Fairfield County Edition and recommended
161 fellow WPRC members take a look.
- 162 8) Adjournment: The commission adjourned at 9:48 p.m.,
163 Butlein/Bernstein motion and second. All in favor.
- 164
- 165 Respectfully Submitted,
- 166 David Juneau

167

ACTION ITEMS

- 2009-10 Mr. Ungar will ask Building Inspector Rack Gleason (or the proper authority if not Mr. Gleason) about lightening protection needs of the new tower and picnic pavilion near the pond at BSP. Completed and closed October 5, 2009.
- 2009-16 Opened on 9/14/09, Mr. Ungar will forward Ms. Steven's report on BSP Pond attendance to WPRC as soon as it is available. Completed and closed October 5, 2009.
- 2009-17 Opened on 9/14/09, Mr. Ungar will have a rain sensor installed at MFP in order to regulate the irrigation system. Decision as of October 5, 2009: Deferred until Spring 2010 due to scheduling and needless wear and tear during winter to sensor.
- 2009-19 Opened on 10/5/09, Carlos Mello will get data on Weston residents utilizing the Westport Senior Center. Completed and closed 11/9/09. See also Action items 2009-21 and 2009-22 for more research on the topic of adult recreation.
- 2009-20 Opened on 10/5/09, Carl Bernstein will contact Cory Attra regarding Mr. Attra's decision to only endorse installing a concrete foundation for BSP playground gazebo. As of 11/9/09 this item is cancelled due to WPP pursuing other options. This item is now closed.
- 2009-21 Opened on 11/9/09, Mr. Bernstein will look into Southport Racquet Club's willingness to host Weston adults for non-peak gym time at favorable prices.
- 2009-22 Opened on 11/9/09, Mr. Mello will pursue the idea of adult fitness with both the United Way and the Weston Commission on Aging.
- 2009-23 Opened on 11/9/09, Mr. Uzenoff will follow up with David Ungar to see if Dr. William Dest's recent ball field assessment has been forwarded to the Board of Education.

168